

**Town of Effingham, New Hampshire  
Historic District Commission**

**Public Hearing Minutes  
Center Effingham Historic District  
Effingham Public Library  
30 Town House Road, Effingham  
September 19, 2016**

Present: E. Chick (Chair), S. Finn (Assistant Chair), E. Jones (Secretary), H. Spencer (Selectmen's Representative)

Absent: None.

The public hearing was called to order by the Chair at 7:30 p.m.

Members of the public in attendance were: L. & J. McConnell, S. Jones, G. & E. Hollister, L. Edwards, K. Payne.

The Chair first explained that this was a public hearing required by state RSAs to be held in the historic district for the purpose of accepting questions and/or comments from the public on the proposed changes to the Historic District Regulations. Since Effingham is somewhat unique in the state in that we have two separate historic districts, two public hearings, one in each district, must be held. The first public hearing ~~having had~~ just been held earlier in the evening at the Lord's Hill Fire Station (Fire Station #1). The Chair further explained that the process by which the hearings would be conducted would be the same **as the prior hearing**. Following the conclusion of this public hearing, the Commission would then consider any action to be taken; whether ~~that be~~ to approve the changes, delay the changes, **and/or** disapprove the changes, etc.

The Chair then explained the process by which the Public Hearing would be conducted. The proposed Historic District Regulations, copies of which were available for all in attendance, would be reviewed page by page, and questions and/or comments would be taken as each page was reviewed. Once the entire proposed document was reviewed, the comment period of the Public Hearing would be closed so that the Commission could consider any actions to be taken. The Chair did note that the process of determining what actions might be taken on the proposed changes (i.e. whether to approve, delay, or disapprove the changes) would likely be done on a page by page or, if necessary, paragraph by paragraph basis.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 2. The Secretary reviewed the comments made at the earlier hearing. There were no additional comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 3. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 4. K. Payne asked about the 1920 cutoff for period versus non-period buildings. The Commission has no specific knowledge as to why this year was used, though there may be some historical reasons (e.g. timeline of rural electrification, end of the World War I period).

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 5. There were no comments.  
The Chair reviewed the changes to page 6. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 7. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 8. The Secretary reviewed the comments made at the earlier hearing. K. Payne asked about the driveway width requirements. The Secretary explained that the Planning Board driveway regulations have minimum standards but no maximum standards. The Commission wished to include maximum standards for the Historic Districts.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 9. The Chair reviewed the comments made at the earlier hearing. K. Payne asked about #22 – Utility Companies and whether this applied to utility poles. The Commission indicated that this section would apply to utility poles and provided as an example that application recently submitted by the McConnell for their property on Hobbs Road.

K. Payne also asked about the installation of solar in the Historic Districts. The Commission advised that this would fall under #21 – Utility Services. It was noted by the Secretary that with the advances in solar technology, it is becoming increasingly possible to install solar that is cost effective and meets the requirements of the Historic Districts.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 10. The Secretary reviewed the comments made at the earlier hearing. There were no additional comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 11. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 12. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 13. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 14. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 15. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 16. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 17. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 18. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 19. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 20. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 21. There were no comments.

The Commission briefly discussed whether or not to approve any changes at this time. The general consensus was that, if the proposed changes were discussed page by page or paragraph by paragraph if

required, then it would be prudent to act on any proposed changes which did not seem to raise any objections or discussion.

The Commission then began the process of acting upon the proposed changes page by page.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 2. It was moved by H. Spencer to accept the scrivener's changes. Seconded by the Chair. There was no discussion on the motion. Passed and carried.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by H. Spencer to amend #23 – Composite Materials to add "Manufactured and/or" to the title and to the text after "of" and before "composite." Seconded by the Chair. There was no additional discussion on the motion. Passed and carried.

It was moved by the Secretary and seconded by the Assistant Chair to strike the word "licensed" from #25 – Demolition. There was no discussion on the motion. Passed and carried.

It was moved by the Secretary and seconded by the Chair to approve all changes as amended. There was no discussion on the motion. Passed and carried.

The public hearing was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Jones  
Secretary